

REMARKS

Consideration of this reply, which is responsive to the Official Action mailed May 17, 2002 is respectfully requested. Claims 1-30 have been held to be subject to a restriction requirement under 35 U.S.C. §121.

The restriction requirement, as formally presented in the Official Action, requires restriction to one of eight inventions asserted by the Examiner to be patentably distinct, which the Examiner has set forth in eight groups of claims, namely:

- I. The composition of claims 1-5, classified in class 424, subclass 602;
- II. The preparation method of claims 6-20 and 29, classified in class 23, subclass 306;
- III. The catalytic support of claim 21, classified in class 502, subclass 340;
- IV. The tissue implant of claims 22-24, classified in class 433, subclass 201.1;
- V. The fill material of claims 25 and 26, classified in class 514, subclass 769;
- VI. The plant substrate of claim 27, classified in class 47, subclass 65.5;
- VII. The dentifrice of claim 28, classified in class 424, subclass 57; and
- VIII. The luminescent substrate of claim 30, classified in class 430, subclass 139.

Applicants hereby elect, without traverse, claim Group II for prosecution in the present application. Claims 1-5, 21-28 and 30 directed to non-elected subject matter have been cancelled, without prejudice. Applicants reserve the right to file a Divisional Patent Application on the non-elected subject matter.

Regarding elected claim Group II, the Examiner also stated that claims 6-20 were generic to a plurality of disclosed patentably distinct species and required applicants to elect one ultimate

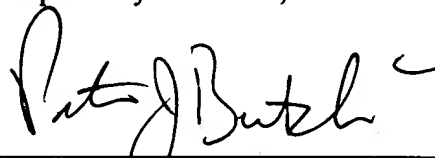
species of each of a calcium compound, a magnesium compound and a phosphate compound.

Applicants hereby elect calcium hydroxide as the calcium compound, magnesium hydroxide as the magnesium compound and diammonium hydrogen phosphate as the phosphate compound. Each and every one of claims 6-20 read upon the elected species.

To be complete, applicants note that claims 21-26 of Groups III - V were also the subject of separate species election requirements. However, this has been rendered moot by applicants' election of claim Group II for prosecution. Accordingly, no species for prosecution on the merits have been identified for claim Groups III - V.

It is believed that claims 6-20 and 29 are in condition for allowance. A favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested. If there are any additional charges in connection with this response, the Examiner is authorized to charge applicants' Deposit Account No. 19-5425.

Respectfully submitted,



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7/00/02

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